

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 18). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name WHITE RIVER ENTRANCE
other names/site number WHITE RIVER ENTRANCE HISTORIC DISTRICT

2. Location

street & number MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK not for publication
city, town _____ vicinity
state WASHINGTON code WA county LEWIS; PIERCE code 041; 053 zip code _____

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>4</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>4</u>	_____ objects
			_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Historic Resources of Mount Rainier
National Park

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register _____

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] December 13, 1990
Signature of commenting or other official Date

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/Institutional housing; Camp
RECREATION AND CULTURE/Outdoor Recreation

Current Function (enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC/Institutional Housing; Camp
RECREATION AND CULTURE/Outdoor Recreation

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER- RUSTIC STYLE

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete; Stone

walls WOOD/Log; Clapboard

roof WOOD/Shake; Shingle

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The buildings at White River are similar in plan and design to contemporary rustic structures at Nisqually and Longmire. The log frame entrance station was modeled after the Nisqually entrance station. However, the porte-cochere feature is original to White River and was only copied in the late thirties at Nisqually as part of the CCC remodeling. Characteristic features of the other structures in the forested setting at White River are wood-frame construction, rough lapped cedar siding painted brown and medium-pitched cedar shake or shingled roofs.

See the attached PNR Inventory Cards for additional information regarding the buildings at the White River Entrance Station.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Politics/Government (Federal Administration of park)
Entertainment/Recreation

Period of Significance

1931 - 1933

Significant Dates

Cultural Affiliation

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The White River Entrance Station complex is significant for its association with the federal government's administration, management, and development of Mount Rainier National Park (National Register Criterion A). Originally built between 1929-1931 to accommodate the expected influx of visitors arriving on the Yakima Park Highway, White River continues to function much as it did historically. This complex of buildings is also significant for its association with the Rustic Style of architecture (Criterion C). This architectural theme was used throughout the park on all types of facilities in an effort to integrate man's presence and needs as sensitively as possible into the natural environment. The Men's Mess Hall and Dormitory (built 1933) is believed to be the only CCC camp building remaining in the park.

See the attached PNR Inventory Cards for additional information on the properties located at the White River Entrance Station.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE MULTIPLE PROPERTY DOCUMENTATION FORM

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than 5 acres

UTM References

A

1,0	61,02,0,0	5,19,51,4,0
Zone	Easting	Northing

C

1,0	61,00,8,0	5,19,50,4,0
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

1,0	61,02,2,0	5,19,51,0,0
Zone	Easting	Northing

D

1,0	61,00,5,0	5,19,50,8,0
Zone	Easting	Northing

White River Mess Hall and Dormitory (W-207):
1 0 / 6 1 0 1 1 0 / 5 1 9 5 1 0 0

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description A rectangle, starting 100 feet east of the entrance station at the park road, proceeding southwest along the park road to a point 100 ft. west of the SW corner of the Comfort Station(W-003), then making a 90-degree turn NW, proceeding NW 100 ft. from the western edge of W-003 to a point 100 ft. NW of the NW corner of W-003, then making a 90-degree turn, proceeding NE along a line 100 ft. from the northern edge of W-003, to a point 100 ft. east of the northeastern corner of the entrance station, then, making a 90-degree turn, turning SE to meet the starting See continuation sheet point at the park road

Boundary Justification

The boundary was drawn to include the primary historic structures and some land encompassing the structures in order to convey the historic setting.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Stephanie Toothman, Ph.D, Chief, Cultural Resources Division

organization National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Reg. date September 1983

street & number 83 S. King Street, Suite 212 telephone (206) 442-0791

city or town Seattle state Washington zip code 98104

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

WHITE RIVER MESS HALL AND DORMITORY (W-207):

Boundary: A rectangle formed by lines running parallel to the structure's walls at a distance of fifty feet from the building.

Acreage: Less than 1 acre

UTM References: 10/610110/5195100

USGS Quad: White River Park, Washington, 1:24,000

Justification: The boundary was drawn to include the historic building and some of the land encompassing the structure in order to convey the historic setting. This building is considered an integral component of the White River Entrance Historic District but is physically located outside the boundaries of the district as defined in this nomination because of its distance from the district's primary significant structures. Its inclusion within the district (for the purposes of Section 10 of this nomination form) would have resulted in additional non-contributing buildings and acreage being included within the district because of their proximity to the significant structures. In an effort to draw and define the boundaries of the district as carefully as possible, ensuring that only significant properties and acreage are included within those defined boundaries, boundaries were drawn around structure W-207 and are separate from the main district boundaries (Points A,B,C,D).

PN 6/82

NPRO INVENTORY

National Park Service
Pacific Northwest Region
Cultural Resources Division

Westin Building, P 1920
2001 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98121

1. SITE I.D. NO		5. ORIGINAL USE		7. CLASSIFICATION		9. RATING	
(CARD 1 OF 2)		Checking Station					
2. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE		6. PRESENT USE				10. DATE	
White River Entrance Ranger Station		Ranger Officer, Checking Station				1929-31	
3. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO)		Backentry Permits		8. UTM ZONE		11. REGION	
White River Entrance W-001							
4. CITY/VICINITY		STATE		SCALE		QUAD NAME	
White River Entrance		Washington		1:24 1:62.5			
12. OWNER/ADMIN ADDRESS				OTHER			
NPS/Mount Rainier National Park, Tahoma Woods-Star Route, Ashford, Washington 98304							

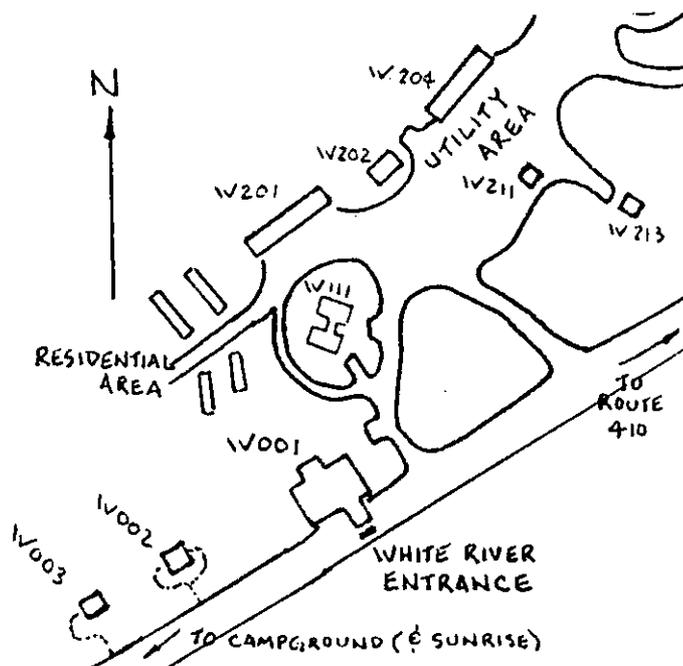
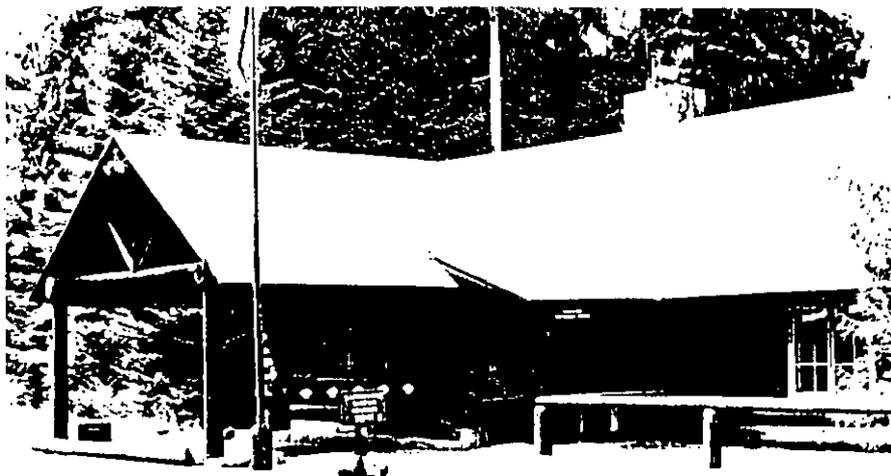
13. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, MAJOR ALTERATIONS, EXISTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

Log frame, one-story, seven rooms, "T"-shaped structure with a wood frame rear entrance addition; steeply-pitched gable roof intersects with gable roof extension or stem of "T" and a porte cochere of log post and beam construction; cedar-roof singles; stone chimney on main gable ridge; whole log rafters and purlins; exterior whole log walls with wood slab chinking; saddle-notch cornering with whittled log ends (crowns); casement and fixed windows; stone and concrete foundation (rebuilt 1952); interior walls are wall-board; tongue-and-groove floor covered by tile in main office; stone fireplace.

The Ranger and Checking Station at the White River entrance was built by the National Park Service between 1929-31. Initial construction was difficult as no roads were existing to the site. Although the Yakima Park Highway was under construction in 1929, it would not reach the White River Entrance until the following year. Further delays in transporting materials were experienced in 1929 when contractor A.C. Goerig failed to bridge Klickitat Creek, east of the site. A temporary cable line was erected over the creek to transport building materials. They were then hauled by shed teams to the White River Entrance. Increased costs delayed completion of the ranger and checking station until 1931.

14. CONDITION	<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	15. DANGER OF DEMOLITION? (SPECIFY THREAT)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN
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16. SIGNIFICANCE
Modeled after the Nisqually entrance station, the White River Entrance Ranger Station was one of the numerous park structures constructed under Major O.A. Tomlinson's superintendency (1923-1941) and designed by the National Park Service, Branch of Plans and Design, under the supervision of Chief Architect T.C. Vint. The station's importance grew with the increase in traffic through the White River entrance following the development of Yakima Park (Sunrise). The original porte cochere, constructed at the request of Superintendent Tomlinson, was recently replaced when a new kiosk was installed. Otherwise, the facility remains largely unaltered.



18. LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO NAME

19. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY YES, LIMITED YES, UNLIMITED NO UNKNOWN

20. EXISTING SURVEYS NR NHL HABS HAER-1 HAER NPS STATE COUNTY LOCAL OTHER

21. REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

Building File W-001, Maintenance Division, Mount Rainier National Park; Waterhouse Report on Construction Activities (with photos) 1929 and 1931.

Erwin N. Thompson, Mount Rainier National Park, Washington: Historic Resource Study, (Denver: Historic Preservation Branch, Denver Service Center, National Park Service, 1981).

Robert L. Carper, List of Classified Structures Inventory, Mount Rainier National Park, (Denver, CO: National Park Service, 1976).

Superintendent's Monthly Report, (with photo), 4 November 1930, Archives, Mount Rainier National Park.

22. INVENTORIED BY

DWH and GCF

AFFILIATION

MORA Cultural Resource Survey

DATE

9/3/82

PN 6/82

NPRO INVENTORY

National Park Service
Pacific Northwest Region
Cultural Resources Division

Westin Building, P 1920
2001 Sixth Ave.
Seattle, Washington 98121

1. SITE I.D. NO		5. ORIGINAL USE		7. CLASSIFICATION			9. RATING	
2. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE (CARD 2 of 2) White River Entrance Ranger Station		Checking Station and Residence					10. DATE	
3. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO) White River Entrance W-001		6. PRESENT USE Ranger Offices, Checking Station, Backcntry Permits					1929-31	
4. CITY/VICINITY		COUNTY		STATE		8. UTM ZONE EASTING NORTHING		
White River Entrance		Pierce		Washington		SCALE 1:24 1:62.5 OTHER QUAD NAME		
12. OWNER/ADMIN ADDRESS NPS/Mount Rainier National Park, Tahoma Woods-Star Route, Ashford, Washington 98304								

13. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, MAJOR ALTERATIONS, EXTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

The structure was originally used as a ranger's residence as well as a checking station. The main portion measured 21' x 44' with a floor size of 1500 square feet. It contained two bedrooms, a dining room, kitchen, a bath, and a bedroom. The "stem" of the "T"-portion measured 10.5' x 13' and contained the ranger's office. A kiosk was located under the porte cochere. It measured 13' x 20'. At an unknown date a rear entrance addition was erected. It measured 8' x 9.5' and was comprised of a steeply-pitched, cedar-shingled, gable roof with log rafters and purlins. Whole log posts supported the projecting verge and the exterior was covered with rough-lapped Douglas Fir siding.

Presently, the facility is used for ranger's offices, information center issuing backcountry permits and checking station. The exterior remains largely unaltered except for the removal of the original work in 1982. Concurrently, a new porte cochere was constructed measuring 13' x 15'. The new kiosk is located on an island opposite the porte cochere.

14. CONDITION					15. DANGER OF DEMOLITION? (SPECIFY THREAT)		
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN

16. SIGNIFICANCE

17 PHOTOS AND SKETCH MAP OF LOCATION



18 LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO NAME

19. PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY YES, LIMITED YES, UNLIMITED
 NO UNKNOWN

20 EXISTING SURVEYS NR NHL HABS HAER-1 HAER NPS STATE
 COUNTY LOCAL OTHER

21 REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

22 INVENTORIED BY

AFFILIATION

DATE

PN 6/82

NPS INVENTORY

National Park Service
Pacific Northwest Region
Cultural Resources Division

Westin Building, F 1920
2001 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98121

1. SITE I.D. NO

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2. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE

White River Entrance/Men's Comfort Station

5. ORIGINAL USE

Comfort Station

7. CLASSIFICATION

9. RATING

10. DATE

1931

11. REGION

3. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO)

White River Entrance W-002

8. PRESENT USE

Same

4. CITY/VICINITY

White River Entrance

COUNTY

Pierce

STATE

Washington

SCALE

1:24

1:62.5

QUAD

OTHER

NAME

12. OWNER/ADMIN ADDRESS

NPS/Mount Rainier National Park, Tahoma Woods-Star Route, Ashford, Washington

13. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, MAJOR ALTERATIONS, EXISTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

Wood frame, one-story, two-room, rectangular structure; medium-pitched gable roof, log ridge beam, cedar roof shakes on wood sheathing over whole log rafters and purlins; 1 x 8 rough lap (clapboard) exterior siding with log post and beam framing, vertical log veneer siding on gable ends; two log veneer doors; pivot windows; interior wallboard siding; suspended ceiling; concrete floor; stone and concrete foundation.

A 1930 original drawing exists of the comfort station. The structure, entitled "Comfort Station and Delco Plant, White River Entrance," was built in 1931 by the National Park Service. The Waterhouse Report on Construction Activities (in 1931) reported that "all material was hauled to the site over the completed Klickitat Bridge..." Prior to the installment of 1 x 8 rough lap exterior siding, the structure had log siding.

Measuring 11.9' x 28', one end of the building housed a Delco lighting plant. Today, it is used for storage of sanitation supplies.

14. CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

15. DANGER OF DEMOLITION?
(SPECIFY THREAT)

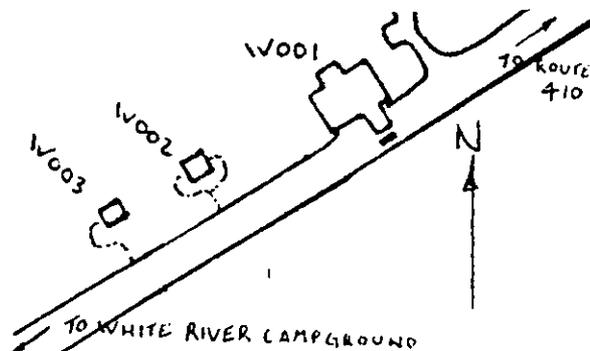
YES

NO

UNKNOWN

16. SIGNIFICANCE

17 PHOTOS AND SKETCH MAP OF LOCATION



18 LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO NAME

19 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY YES, LIMITED YES, UNLIMITED NO UNKNOWN

20 EXISTING SURVEYS NR NHL HABS HAER-1 HAER NPS STATE COUNTY LOCAL OTHER

21 REFERENCES--HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

Building File W-002, Maintenance Division, Mount Rainier National Park.

Original Drawing, "Comfort Station and Delco Plant, White River Entrance," 9/11/30 (White River Entrance - Campground Buildings File, Maintenance Division, MORA).

22 INVENTORIED BY David Harvey

AFFILIATION MORA Cultural Resources Survey

DATE 9/8/82

MORA INVENTORY

National Park Service
Pacific Northwest Region
Cultural Resources Division

Westin Building, F 1920
2001 Sixth Ave.
Seattle, Washington 98121

1. SITE I.D. NO		5. ORIGINAL USE		7. CLASSIFICATION		9. RATING	
2. NAME(S) OF STRUCTURE		6. PRESENT USE				10. DATE	
3. SITE ADDRESS (STREET & NO)						1931	
4. CITY/VICINITY		STATE		8. UTM ZONE		11. REGION	
COUNTY				EASTING			
SCALE				NORTHING			
OTHER							
QUAD NAME							

12. OWNER/ADMIN ADDRESS
NPS/Mount Rainier National Park, Tahoma Woods-Star Route, Ashford, Washington

13. DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND HISTORY INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATE(S), PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS, MATERIALS, MAJOR ALTERATIONS, EXTANT EQUIPMENT, AND IMPORTANT BUILDERS, ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, ETC.

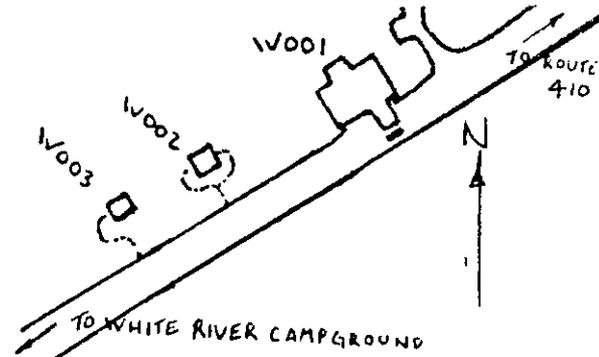
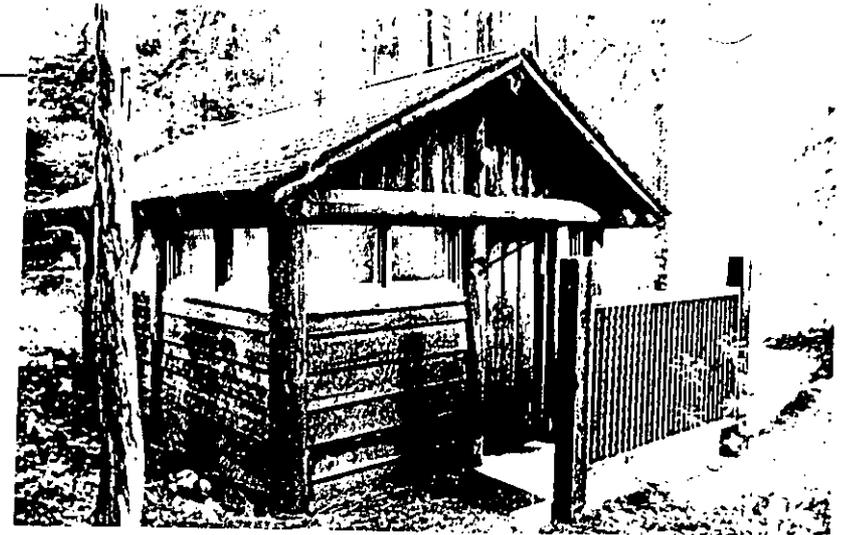
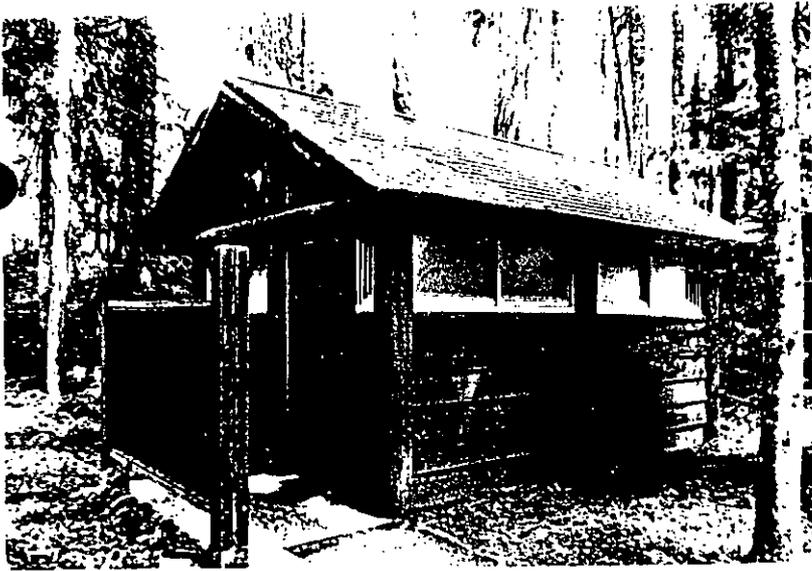
Wood frame, one-story, one-room, rectangular structure; medium-pitched gable roof; log ridge beam, cedar roof shakes on wood sheathing over whole log rafters and purlins; 1 x 9 rough lap (clapboard) exterior siding with log post and beam framing, vertical log veneer siding on gable ends; two log veneer doors; fixed windows with mottled glass; interior 1 x 4 tongue and groove walls; suspended ceiling; concrete floor; stone and concrete foundation.

A 1930 original drawing exists of the comfort station, entitled "Womens Comfort Station, White River Entrance" (MORA White River Entrance-Campground Buildings File). Built in 1931 by the National Park Service, the structure measures 11.8' x 14.3', with a floor size of 168 square feet. Prior to the addition of 1 x 9 rough lap exterior siding, the structure had totally log siding.

14. CONDITION					15. DANGER OF DEMOLITION? (SPECIFY THREAT)		
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN

16. SIGNIFICANCE

17 PHOTOS AND SKETCH MAP OF LOCATION



18 LOCATED IN AN HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO NAME

19 PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY YES, LIMITED YES, UNLIMITED UNKNOWN
 NO

20. EXISTING SURVEYS NR NHL HABS HAER-1 HAER NPS STATE
 COUNTY LOCAL OTHER

21 REFERENCES—HISTORICAL REFERENCES, PERSONAL CONTACTS, AND/OR OTHER

Building File W-003, Maintenance Division, Mount Rainier National Park.

Original Drawing, "Womens Comfort Station, White River Entrance," 9/17/30 (White River Entrance-Campground Buildings File, Maintenance Division, MORA).

22 INVENTORIED BY

David Harvey

AFFILIATION

MORA Cultural Resources Survey

DATE

9/8/82

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 91000177

Date Listed: 3/13/91

White River Entrance
Property Name

Pierce
County

WA
State

Historic Resources of Mount Rainier National Park
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Quinnette J. Lee
Signature of the Keeper

3/13/91
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Classification: The Number of Resources within the Property should be amended to read 3 contributing buildings and 3 total contributing resources.

Statement of Significance: The Period of Significance is amended to read: 1929-33.

Geographical Data: The acreage of the property should read 4.9 acres.

This information was confirmed with Stephanie Toothman of the Pacific Northwest Regional Office NPS.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)